

Evaluating Inline Inspection Results

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Frequently Asked Questions

- What is the process to evaluate ILI survey results?
- Are verification digs necessary?
- If so, how many?
- What type of information does the ILI service provider expect from the field?
- How is this information used?
- How important is it to understand the accuracy of ILI survey results?

What is the process to evaluate ILI survey results?

- Use available Standards and References
 - ❑ API 1163
 - ❑ NACE RP 0102
 - ❑ ILI Service Provider Guidelines
 - ❑ Operator Integrity Management Protocol

API 1163

- Section 9 specifically addresses “System Results Verification”
- The process of evaluating ILI results is outlined:
 - ❑ Process validation
 - ❑ Comparison with historic data from the pipeline being inspected
 - ❑ Comparison with historic data or large-scale test data from the ILI system being used
 - ❑ Criteria to determine whether “verification measurements “ are recommended

Process Validation

- Confirmation of data analysis processes
- Comparison of recorded data with previous data
 - ❑ Use previous excavation and repair information
 - ❑ Use previous surveys with similar pipeline characteristics
- Comparison of reported locations and types of pipeline components to actual locations and types of pipeline components

Verification Digs

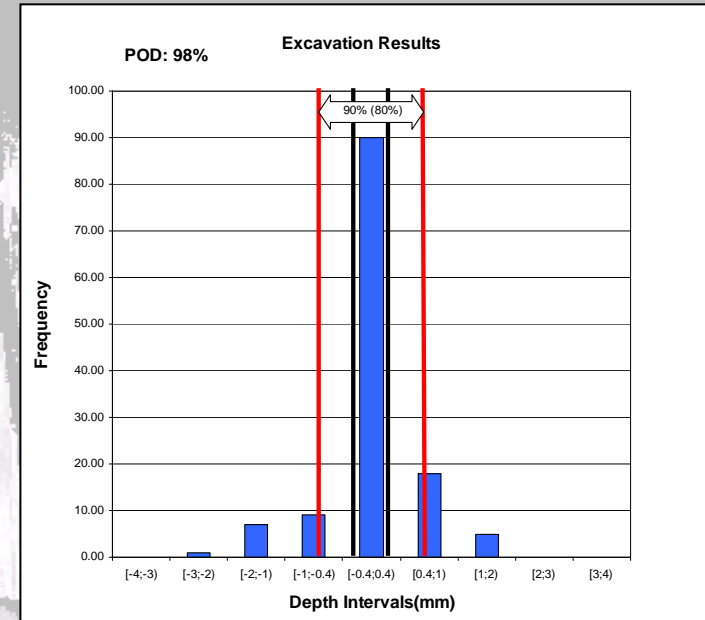
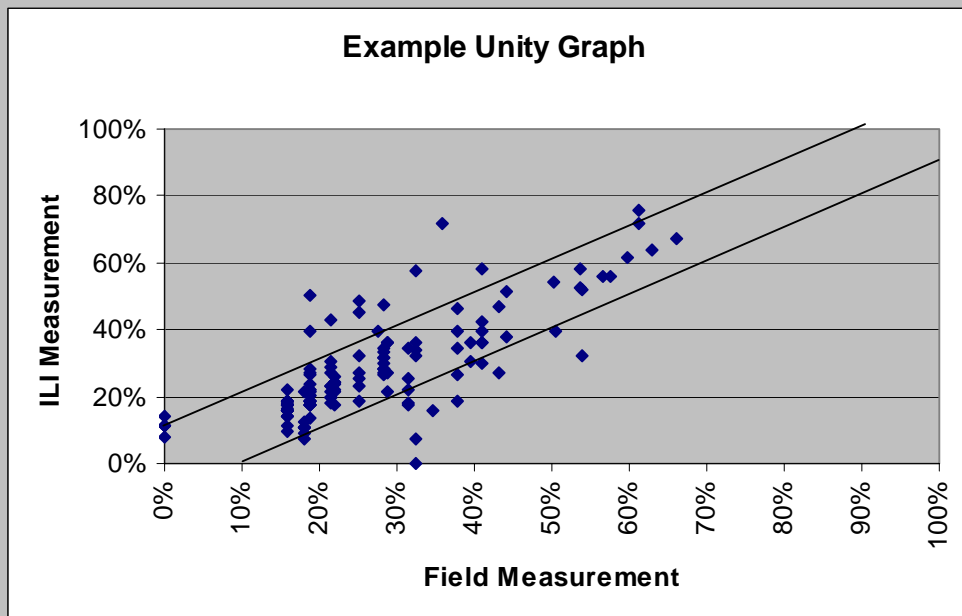
- Use API 1163 as a guideline to determine if verification measurements are recommended
 - ❑ Historic data for line not available
 - ❑ Limited amount of historic data or large scale test data available for ILI system
 - ❑ Discrepancies found during Process Validation
- Integrity Management protocol requires excavations

Verification Digs

- Understand detection thresholds, measurement thresholds, reporting thresholds, and interaction criteria prior to excavation
- Consider errors associated with ILI measurements and field measurements
- The comparison between measured and reported characteristics should be statistically valid and based on sound engineering practices

Verification Digs

- Compare dig results to tool specification



Verification Digs

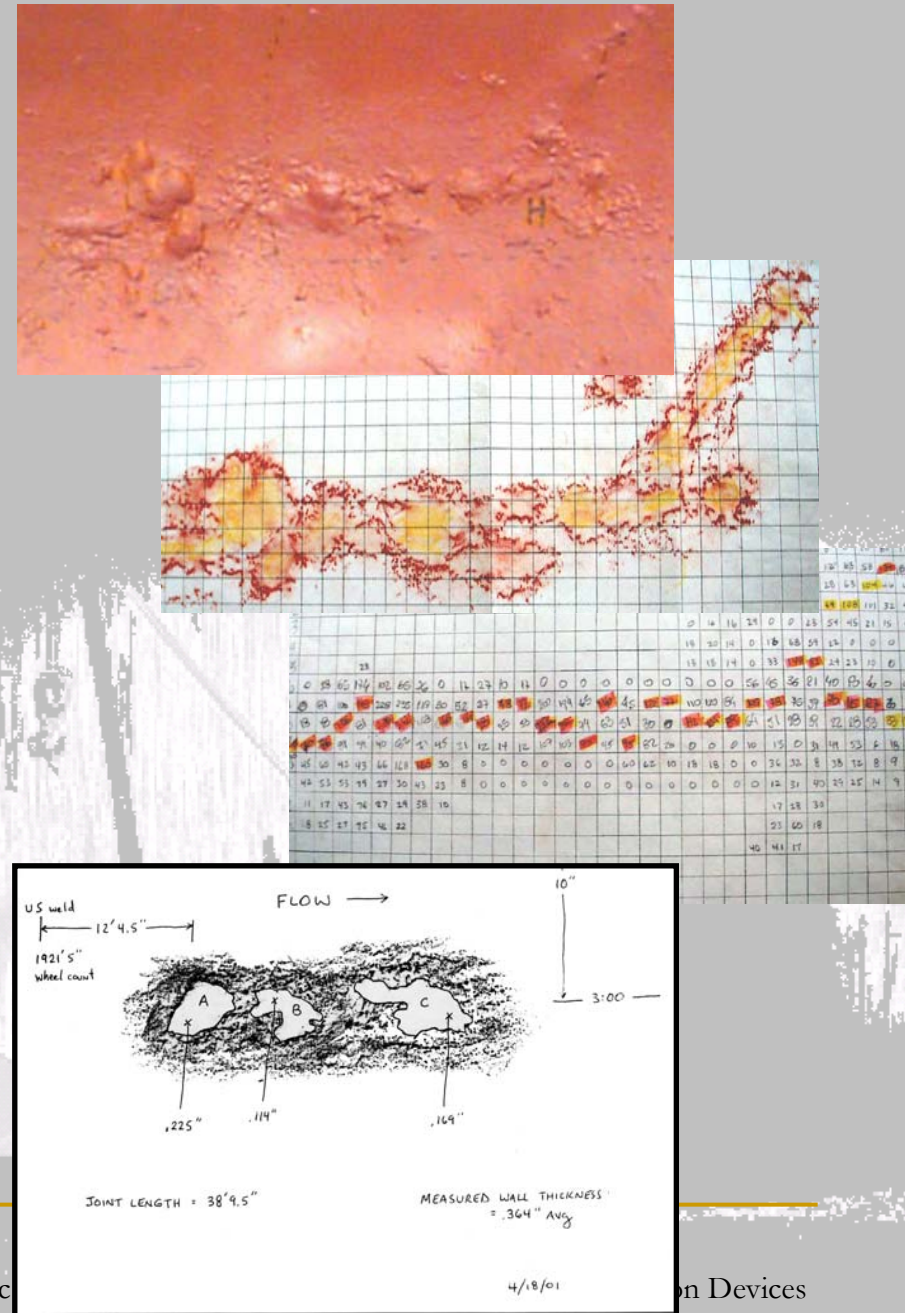
- ❑ See if the dig results are statistically consistent with tool specifications using distribution functions
 - Binomial Distribution
 - Normal Distribution
- ❑ Build confidence intervals to determine range of true tool performance capabilities

Verification Digs

- The number of verification measurement depends on
 - The amount of historical data associated with the pipeline and/or the ILI system
 - Use previous excavation and repair information
 - Use previous results from surveys with similar pipeline and survey characteristics
 - The confidence level associated with tool specifications

Feedback Loop

- Information from verification measurements should be forwarded to service provider
 - ❑ Format of information can be agreed on between operator and service provider
 - ❑ Quality and accuracy of information gathered is important
 - ❑ This includes measurements that are within and not within tolerance



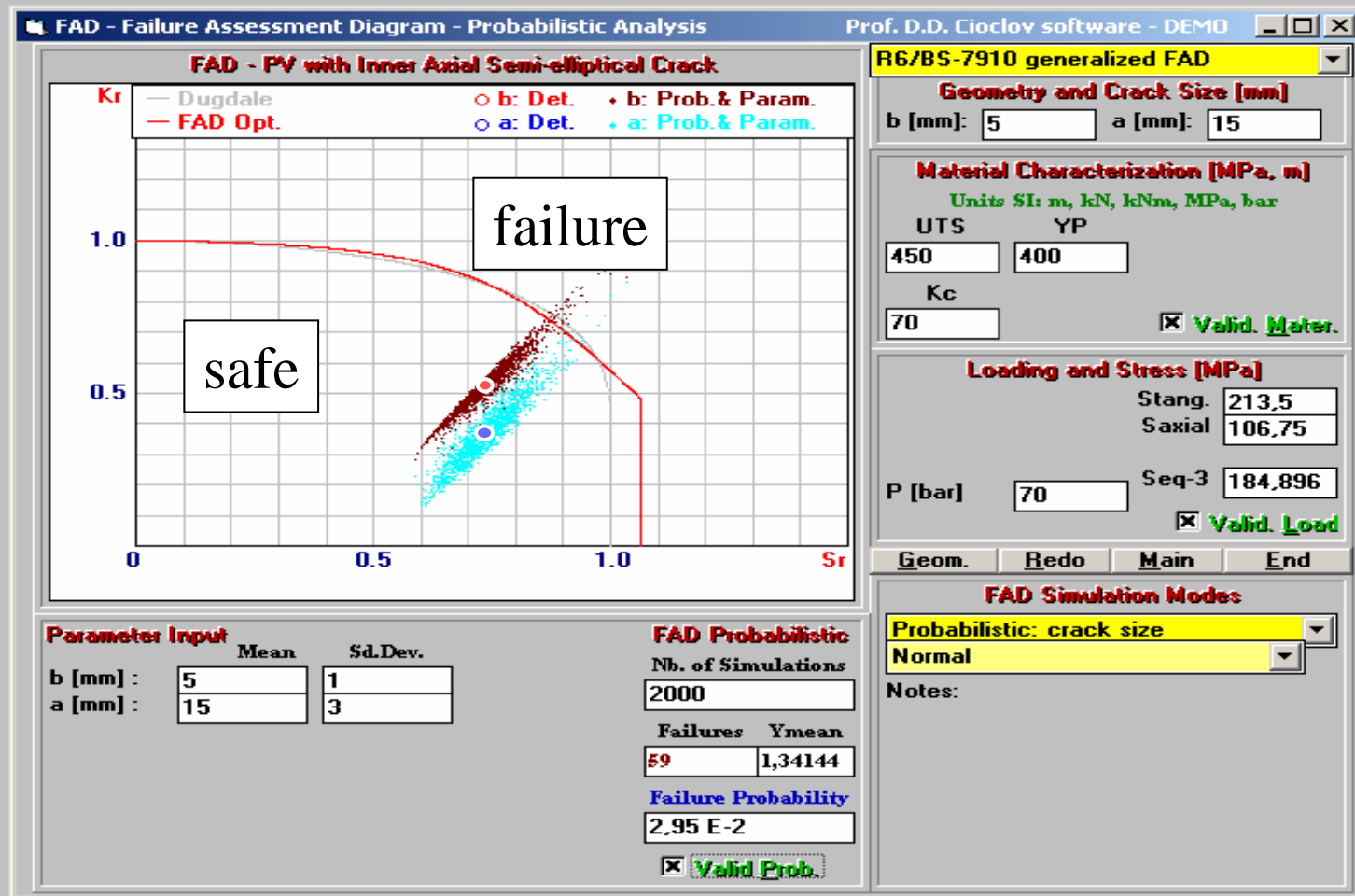
Feedback Loop

- Any discrepancies between the reported inspection results and verification measurements that are outside the tool specifications should be reviewed and source identified
- Tool specifications can be confirmed or re-established based on information provided during the feedback loop
- Allows for continual improvement of data analysis processes

Understanding Accuracy of ILI Results

- Allows the operator to implement an optimal repair and mitigation program
- Allows ILI service providers to offer advanced analysis methods
 - ❑ Pressure Based Anomaly Assessment
 - Crack Assessment
 - Metal Loss Assessment
 - ❑ Growth Analysis
 - ❑ Fitness for Purpose Applications
 - ❑ Failure Assessment Diagrams

Understanding Accuracy of ILI Results



Understanding Accuracy of ILI Results

- Allows for modeling the remainder of data set within an ILI survey
 - ❑ Estimate Probability of Detection (POD) and Probability of Identification (POI)
 - ❑ Calculate True Positives (TP), False Positives (FP), and False Negatives (FN)
 - ❑ Approximate distributions for various reported features

Conclusion

- Successful evaluation of ILI survey results is possible using a systematic approach and communication between all parties involved
- Understanding the accuracy of ILI survey results aids in the implementation of an optimal repair and mitigation program
- And enhances the ability of service providers to implement advanced analysis methods

